

The Rush County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. with Gerald Mohr, Chairman, Warren Norris, Charles Smith, Janet Kile, Marvin Hedrick, Scott Barnes, Steve McCorkle, Mary Ann Beard, Auditor and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance.

Chairman Gerald Mohr called the meeting to order and welcomed new board members Scott Barnes and Steve McCorkle.

Minutes of the December meeting were approved on a motion by Marvin Hedrick and seconded by Charles Smith. Motion carried.

### **ORGANIZATION**

Gerald Mohr was nominated as council chairman by Marvin Hedrick and seconded by Scott Barnes. Charles Smith moved that nominations be closed and that Mr. Mohr received the appointment. Steve McCorkle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Janet Kile was nominated as vice-chairman by Warren Norris with Marvin Hedrick seconding the nomination. A motion to close the nominations and accept Janet Kile as vice-chairman was offered by Charles Smith and seconded by Scott Barnes. Motion carried.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

The following 2015 appointments were approved:

APC-Scott Barnes. Motion by Marvin Hedrick and seconded by Charles Smith.

EIDD-Janet Kile. Motion by Charles Smith and seconded by Steve McCorkle

ECDC-Janet Kile. Motion by Charles Smith and seconded by Scott Barnes.

Heath Insurance-Marvin Hedrick. Motion by Steve McCorkle and seconded by Scott Barnes.

Solid Waste-Warren Norris. Motion by Marvin Hedrick and seconded by Janet Kile.

EMA-Steve McCorkle. Motion by Scott Barnes and seconded Warren Norris.

Community Corrections, Partners for Progress-Gerald Mohr.

### **TRANSFERS**

The following emergency transfers from December were approved by unanimous vote:

- Highway \$175.00 from Stone & Gravel to Safety Supplies. Motion by Marvin Hedrick and seconded by Warren Norris.
- Highway \$6,285.25 from Stone & Gravel to Gas & Oil. Motion by Charlie Smith and seconded by Warren Norris.
- Highway \$3,739.01 from Stone & Gravel to Garage & Motor. Motion by Janet Kile and seconded by Charlie Smith.

## **APC**

Due to the proposed restructuring plan of the APC, presented by the Mayor, the council only appropriated \$4,000 for the director's salary with the intention to re-visit the budget. APC board member Jeff Slayton reported that the board has contracted a new APC consultant and legal counsel and requested that the council appropriate a full year's salary for the director. Commissioner Bruce Levi stated that the Area Plan Commission is enforcing city ordinances that have never been adopted by the APC. Levi requested a 90 day extension for the APC director's salary to allow for a joint meeting of the City, County and APC. Gerald Mohr stated that the volume of city business in the APC is approximately 50% and that the enforcement of city ordinances is more complicated. Mohr warned that the council should not be rushed to make a decision. Marvin Hedrick moved that the appropriation be adjusted for 90 days at the current rate. Steve McCorkle moved to 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. After discussion the motion was carried with Steve McCorkle voting "No".

Motion to approve the transfer of funds in the amount of \$12,000 from 1-23-3-1 Plan Consultant to 1-23-1-1 Executive Director was offered by Marvin Hedrick. Steve McCorkle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Bruce Levi reported that the process of purchasing the Rush/Shelby Building on Main St. continues. A surveyor is working to split the fiber hut connected to the building from the description of that building.

A new contract with Wellman Brothers to continue with the Courthouse roof repairs has been signed.

## **ECDC**

John Mc Cane, ECDC director stated that their office has been awarded a \$48,000 grant from the USDA. The funds will be used in a loan program for small business. There is a match of \$16,000 to attain this grant. Mr. McCane shared that the loans may be awarded countywide and requested that the County split the match with the City. Janet Kile moved to allow \$8,000 from EDIT funds with the stipulation that a county representative be appointed to the loan committee. Charles Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Smith volunteered to serve on the committee.

Mr. McCane informed the Council that Rushville has been notified that they are the recipients of the Hometown Collaboration Initiative. McCane also shared that Taco Bell has recently opened, the INTAT expansion continues, and the proposed 9 million dollar downtown housing project is on track. Those in attendance were invited to an ECDC open house at the 201 building on January 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:00p.m. to 6:00p.m.

## **RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Raleigh Volunteer Fire Department's annual report was submitted by Verlin Custer. Custer stressed that the radio system for fire needs to be addressed. Custer went on to say that the county can't afford the upgrade to 800MHz radios and his preference would be digital VHS.

## **SHERIFF**

New Sheriff Jim Cowan was welcomed by the board. The sheriff reported 22 inmates at this time, dispatch responded to 311 calls, and the department is working on 510 outstanding warrants. While the jail population is low, "C" block is being refurbished.

Jim Trout has been hired as the first security officer for the courthouse. Cowan stated that Trout is receiving security training and will need to be issued equipment.

Cowan reported that there has been issues with the "code red" emergency alert system, and there is a huge safety issue with the current radio system. Training is needed on the 800MHz radios and the benefits of single dispatch should be studied.

The Highway department is interested in purchasing the Sheriff's department pick-up truck that is being traded by the Sheriff.

## **AUDITOR**

- Reminder that the Jail Study Committee will meet today at the Glenwood Town Hall at 11:00a.m.
- The \$40,000 payment from NextEra was received on January 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Carole Yeend will take a picture of the council for the county's website.

## **COUNCIL CHAIRMAN**

Gerald Mohr reported that Partners for Progress continue to work on the restoration of the Princess Theater and the site for the new City Hall building.

Mohr also reported the fiber hut currently attached to the Rush Shelby building must be included in the plans of a new jail if located on adjacent lot.

Marvin Hedrick moved to adjourn. Scott Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

/s/ Gerald Mohr  
Gerald Mohr, Chairman

/s/ Warren Norris  
Warren Norris

/s/ Charles Smith  
Charles Smith

/s/ Janet Kile  
Janet Kile

/s/ Marvin Hedrick  
Marvin Hedrick

/s/ Scott Barnes  
Scott Barnes

Absent  
Steve McCorkle

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary Ann Beard  
Mary Ann Beard, Auditor

